

Warren County Board of Supervisors

RESOLUTION NO. 408 OF 2016

Resolution introduced by Supervisors Thomas and Wood

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY BILL A10360 AND
NEW YORK STATE SENATE BILL S7209A RELATING TO CENTRALIZED
OFF-HOURS ARRAIGNMENTS AND RECOMMENDING THAT
THE GOVERNOR SIGN THE BILL INTO LAW**

WHEREAS, Warren County expends substantial resources to provide assigned counsel to indigent defendants in local justice courts from arraignment through the pendency of the case; and

WHEREAS, in light of the presence of counsel for such defendants the District Attorney also provides an attorney for the People of the State of New York at such proceedings; and

WHEREAS, in light of the geographic distance and time required for defense counsel and assistant district attorneys to appear before several justice courts held during nights and weekends; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Office of Court Administration, Glens Falls City Court Hon. Gary C. Hobbs and the District Attorney, the Public Defender and the Assigned Counsel Administrator have prepared a plan for centralized “off-hour” arraignments to occur in the Warren County Municipal Center; and

WHEREAS, the Warren County Magistrates’ Association has unanimously endorsed the plan; and

WHEREAS, implementation of the plan will help ensure that all defendants have access to counsel from the earliest stages of a criminal proceeding against them in local justice courts while preserving county resources; and

WHEREAS, each house of the New York State Legislature has passed a bill that provides the jurisdictional means necessary to implement the plan, and the bills await action by the Governor; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the Warren County Board of Supervisors voices its support for Assembly Bill A10360 and Senate Bill S7209A and calls on the Governor to sign the bills into law without delay.